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The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 1 May 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as the representative of the country which currently chairs the Collective Security Treaty Organization, I have the honour to transmit to you the statement of the Heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan of 28 April 2003 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37, 49 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rashid **Alimov**
Ambassdor
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 1 May 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement of the Heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan

We, the heads of the States parties to the Collective Security Treaty, confirm our commitment to the tasks of guaranteeing collectively the security of our States.

In conformity with the aims and principles enshrined in the Collective Security Treaty and the Charter of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), we shall continue to take action to strengthen the defence component of the Treaty Organization, primarily by developing overall and regional collective-security systems and by intensifying military and political cooperation within the CSTO.

Our States attach particular importance to developing and strengthening collaboration, with the aim of countering collectively new threats and challenges, especially international terrorism. The States parties to the Collective Security Treaty were among the first to have direct experience of the threat of terrorism and to alert the international community to the need to resist that evil collectively.

In establishing the Collective Security Treaty Organization, we intend to contribute substantially to strengthening the anti-terrorism coalition and regional and international security, on the basis of the universally accepted norms and principles of international law, under the leadership and coordination of the United Nations.

On the basis of these positions, we believe there is a need to coordinate and harmonize closely action by the international community to find a final solution to the Afghan crisis and to bring about post-conflict development in Afghanistan. We also support solving the Iraq problem under the auspices of the United Nations and express our readiness to take an active part in implementing a programme of humanitarian aid and reconstruction for the country.

Our strategic choice is in favour of a just and democratic world order which guarantees security and stability for the development of all States. Focusing on achieving this objective, we are expanding all the activities of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, fully exploiting its potential for coordinated action in foreign policy, security and defence.

Dushanbe, 28 April 2003